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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/568,297	11/29/2006	Axel Schmidt	GK-EIS-1103/500593.20096	3515
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REED SMITH, LLP				
ATTN: PATENT RECORDS DEPARTMENT				
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NEW YORK, NY 10022-7650				
EXAMINER				
ENSEY, BRIAN				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
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MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
11/24/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/568,297

Applicant(s)

SCHMIDT ET AL.

Examiner

Brian Ensey

Art Unit

2614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 8-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 February 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☒ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/5508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/14/06
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Oath/Declaration

The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

Non-initialed and/or non-dated alterations have been made to the oath or declaration. See 37 CFR 1.52(c). See oath submitted 11/29/06. Changes to the address of Axel Schmidt.

Claim Objections

Claim 14 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 14 claims "a buffer in the through hole", however no "through hole" is disclosed and for clarity the examiner recommends further clarity such as "a buffer in the hole for receiving the microphone."

. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 8-13, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(c) as being anticipated by Juhler
U.S. Patent No. 7,251,340.

Regarding claim 8, Juhler discloses an interface adapter for receiving a microphone comprising: a receiving unit (15) having a hole for receiving a microphone; and at least one arresting unit (19) for arresting a received microphone (See Figs. 3 and 4 and col. 6, lines 48-65).

Regarding claim 9, Juhler further discloses an elongate guide unit (16, linked by 15, 17 and 18) for guiding a received microphone (See Figs. 3 and 4 and col. 6, lines 48-65).

Regarding claims 10 and 11, Juhler further discloses means for solid-conducted sound decoupling (14) (See Fig. 4 and col. 6, line 66 to col. 6, line 5).

Regarding claims 12 and 13, Juhler further discloses the means for solid-conducted sound decoupling are in the form of rubber rings (14) (See Fig. 4 and col. 6, line 66 to col. 6, line 5).

Regarding claim 15, Juhler discloses an interface adapter for receiving a microphone comprising: at least one guide element (16) for receiving a microphone; at least one arresting unit (19) for arresting a received microphone; and a connecting element (16, linked by 15, 17 and 18) for connecting the guide elements (See Figs. 3 and 4 and col. 6, lines 48-65).

Regarding claim 16, Juhler further discloses the guide element has a groove-shaped recess for receiving a microphone (See Fig. 4).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 14 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Juhler.

Regarding claim 14, Juhler discloses an interface adapter for receiving a microphone as claimed. Juhler does not expressly disclose a buffer in the hole for receiving the microphone. However, the arresting unit (19) for securing the microphone is elastic (See col. 6, lines 62-65). Therefore, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to that the elastic arresting members also provide the function of a buffer by preventing damage to the microphone while securing the microphone in place.

Regarding claim 17, Juhler discloses an interface adapter for receiving a microphone wherein the interface adaptor provides a fixing for a microphone on an interface (boom 11). Juhler does not expressly disclose the interface is in particular a flat interface. However, booms are mounted to stands which are placed on a flat surface. Therefore, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the interface of Juhler may be indirectly mounted to a flat interface though a mounting boom.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Ensey whose telephone number is 571-272-7496. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 6:00 AM - 2:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached at 571-272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450
Or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300, for formal communications intended for entry and for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT".
Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Arlington, VA 22314

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Brian Ensey/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2614
November 22, 2008